

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT,

LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

- with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/05941

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G09B21/00 G06K7/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G09B G06K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/113129 A1 (BARKAN EDWARD ET AL) 22 August 2002 (2002-08-22)	1-6,8-11
Y	abstract; figure 7 paragraph '0006! paragraph '0014! - paragraph '0017!; claims 6,16,17,22,73	7
Y	US 5 640 002 A (AMES RONALD MERLE ET AL) 17 June 1997 (1997-06-17) abstract column 20, line 53 - column 21, line 9	7
A	US 5 250 790 A (BARKAN ED ET AL) 5 October 1993 (1993-10-05) column 3, line 5 - line 8; figure 2 column 7, line 10 - line 13	1-11
	--- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/05/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Kemény, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/05941

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 329 106 A (HONE L MICHAEL ET AL) 12 July 1994 (1994-07-12) claims 1-5; figures 1,2,10 -----	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/05941

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2002113129 A1	22-08-2002	US 5479002 A	26-12-1995
		US 5306900 A	26-04-1994
		US 5191197 A	02-03-1993
		US 5144120 A	01-09-1992
		US 5744788 A	28-04-1998
		US 5969327 A	19-10-1999
		JP 8255210 A	01-10-1996
		US 5471042 A	28-11-1995
		US 5565671 A	15-10-1996
		AT 220467 T	15-07-2002
		AU 650833 B2	30-06-1994
		AU 1610992 A	19-11-1992
		CA 2063348 A1	14-11-1992
		DE 69232678 D1	14-08-2002
		DE 69232678 T2	13-03-2003
		EP 0513530 A2	19-11-1992
		EP 0930579 A2	21-07-1999
		ES 2177144 T3	01-12-2002
		JP 2717043 B2	18-02-1998
		JP 5143762 A	11-06-1993
		KR 208465 B1	15-07-1999
		US 5412193 A	02-05-1995
		US 5536925 A	16-07-1996
		US 5410140 A	25-04-1995
		US 5514861 A	07-05-1996
		US 5578810 A	26-11-1996
		US 5661290 A	26-08-1997
		US 5170277 A	08-12-1992
		US 5811773 A	22-09-1998
		US 5340972 A	23-08-1994
		US 5374817 A	20-12-1994
		US 5250790 A	05-10-1993
		CA 1327850 C	15-03-1994
		DE 68928186 D1	28-08-1997
		DE 68928186 T2	26-02-1998
		DE 68929254 D1	16-11-2000
		DE 68929254 T2	17-05-2001
		EP 0341717 A2	15-11-1989
		EP 0595371 A2	04-05-1994
		EP 0702317 A2	20-03-1996
		EP 0741367 A2	06-11-1996
		EP 0742530 A2	13-11-1996
		JP 2003558 C	20-12-1995
		JP 2023482 A	25-01-1990
		JP 7038208 B	26-04-1995
		US 5907145 A	25-05-1999
		US 5367152 A	22-11-1994
		US 5401948 A	28-03-1995
		US 5525791 A	11-06-1996
		US 5583332 A	10-12-1996
US 5640002 A	17-06-1997	NONE	
US 5250790 A	05-10-1993	US 5144120 A	01-09-1992
		US 5191197 A	02-03-1993
		US 5514861 A	07-05-1996
		CA 1327850 C	15-03-1994
		DE 68928186 D1	28-08-1997

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/05941

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5250790	A	DE 68928186 T2	26-02-1998
		DE 68929254 D1	16-11-2000
		DE 68929254 T2	17-05-2001
		EP 0341717 A2	15-11-1989
		EP 0595371 A2	04-05-1994
		EP 0702317 A2	20-03-1996
		EP 0741367 A2	06-11-1996
		EP 0742530 A2	13-11-1996
		JP 2003558 C	20-12-1995
		JP 2023482 A	25-01-1990
		JP 7038208 B	26-04-1995
		US 5907145 A	25-05-1999
		US 2002113129 A1	22-08-2002
		US 5412193 A	02-05-1995
		US 5367152 A	22-11-1994
		US 5471042 A	28-11-1995
		US 5401948 A	28-03-1995
		US 5536925 A	16-07-1996
		US 5410140 A	25-04-1995
		US 5479002 A	26-12-1995
		US 5525791 A	11-06-1996
		US 5578810 A	26-11-1996
		US 5565671 A	15-10-1996
		US 5583332 A	10-12-1996
		US 5661290 A	26-08-1997
		US 5798512 A	25-08-1998
		US 5170277 A	08-12-1992
		US 5811773 A	22-09-1998
		US 5744788 A	28-04-1998
		US 5254844 A	19-10-1993
		US 5306900 A	26-04-1994
		US 5969327 A	19-10-1999
		US 5374817 A	20-12-1994
		AT 220467 T	15-07-2002
		AU 650833 B2	30-06-1994
		AU 1610992 A	19-11-1992
		CA 2063348 A1	14-11-1992
		DE 69232678 D1	14-08-2002
		DE 69232678 T2	13-03-2003
		EP 0513530 A2	19-11-1992
		EP 0930579 A2	21-07-1999
		ES 2177144 T3	01-12-2002
		JP 2717043 B2	18-02-1998
		JP 5143762 A	11-06-1993
		KR 208465 B1	15-07-1999
US 5329106	A	12-07-1994	NONE